

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 CU-02 AID-05 NSCE-00  
SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 DHA-02 TRSE-00 /076 W  
-----120001 192135Z /64

O R 192028Z JUL 77  
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5775  
INFO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ  
AMEMBASSY QUITO  
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

C O N F I D E N T I A L 6060

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT, PINS, ELAB, SHUM, PE  
SUBJECT: GENERAL STRIKE IN LIMA ACCOMPANIED BY REPORTS OF VIOLENCE

REF: LIMA 6004

SUMMARY: TWENTY-FOUR HOUR GENERAL STRIKE IS BEING OBSERVED BY  
LARGE SEGMENTS OF LIMA LABOR MOVEMENT DESPITE GOP CAMPAIGN TO  
CONTROL OR PREVENT PARALIZATION OF BUSINESS/TRANSPORTATION/INDUS-  
TRIAL SECTORS OF ECONOMY. PRELIMINARY REPORTS INDICATE SCATTERED  
OUTBREAKS OF VIOLENCE AND QUICK POLICE RESPONSE. INTERIOR MINISTER  
WARNS OF "SEVERE MEASURES" TO MAINTAIN PUBLIC ORDER. END SUMMARY.

1. JULY 19 GENERAL STRIKE IS BEING OBSERVED BY LARGE NUMBERS OF  
WORKERS DESPITE LAST MINUTE CAMPAIGN OF GOP (REFTEL) TO PREVENT  
OR MINIMIZE THE MOSCOW-LINE LABOR CONFEDERATION'S (CGTP) SPONSORED  
WORK STOPPAGE. VERY FEW BUSES AND LITTLE TRAFFIC SEEN ON THE STREETS  
AND PROBLEMS HAVE BEEN REPORTED WITH SUCH BASIS SERVICES AS TELEPHONE  
COMMUNICATIONS.

2. REPORTS OF SCATTERED VIOLENCE IN SECTIONS OF LIMA ARE  
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WIDESPREAD. CARS AND BUSES HAVE BEEN ATTACKED BY STONE-THROWING GROUPS

OF STUDENTS AND WORKERS. ARMY ARMORED VEHICLES HAVE BEEN OBSERVED IN  
THE STREETS AND ARMY HELICOPTERS HAVE FLOWN OVER THE CENTER OF THE  
CITY.

3. INTERIOR MINISTER GENERAL LUIS CISNEROS VIZQUERRA DELIVERED

A HALF-HOUR TALK TO THE NATION JULY 18 ON THE EVE OF THE STRIKE. HE WARNED "AGITATORS AND INSTIGATORS" AS WELL AS LABOR LEADERS, POLITICAL PARTIES, PRESS, AND PARENTS THAT GHE GOP WOULD TAKE WHATEVER MEASURES, HOWEVER DISTASTEFUL TO PRESERVE PUBLIC ORDER TO MAINTAIN NECESSARY SERVICES, AND TO CONTINUE THE COURSE OF THE REVOLUTION. HE BLAimed RECENT DISTURBANCES IN THE INTERIOR OF THE COUNTRY ON FAR-LEFT UNIONS, THE PERUVIAN COMMUNIST PARTY (PCP), AND THE CGTP). EMBOFF WAS INFORMED BY A LABOR LEADER JULY 19 THAT CGTP SECRETARY GENERAL EDUARDO CASTILLO SANCHEZ HAS BEEN DETAINED BY POLICE.

CISNEROS TALKED BRIEFLY WITH THE DIRECTORS OF THE INDEPENDENT WEEKLIES JULY 18 AND ISSUED HIS "FINAL WARNING" ON PRESS CRITICISM OF THE GOP WHICH SE SAID HAS CONTRIBUTED TO PRESENT UNREST. HE CITED THE "GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT" THAT HAD LED TO REOPENING OF THE MAGAZINES EARLIER THIS YEAR AND SAID THAT IF THE MAGAZINES DID NOT MODERATE THEIR CRITICISM THEY WOULD BE CLOSED DOWN.

5. HIGH LEVEL GUARDIA CIVIL OFFICER INFORMED EMBOFF MOST SECURITY PROBLEMS INVOLVING ROCKS THROWING, BURINING CARS, ETC. HAVE OCCURRED IN POOR AREAS ON OUTSKIRTS OF LIMA ALTHOUGH CARRETERA CENTRAL CLOSED TWO HOURS THIS MORNING BY BARRICADES. AS OF 1300 HRS HE REPORTS ALL UNDER CONTROL AND CONFIRMS A NUMBER OF LEFTIST LEADERS HAVE BEEN DETAINED. HE CONFIRMS ONE DEATH IN CLASHES WITH POLICE WITH AS MANY AS FIVE OTHER FATALITIES REPORTED BUT UNCONFIRMED. GUARDIA CONFIDENTIAL

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BELIEVES THAT DISORDERS MIGHT RESUME LATER THIS AFTERNOON BUT WILL PROBABLY END TONIGHT AND THAT STRIKE SHOULD END BY JULY 20. UNLESS DISTURBANCES WORSEN, NO CURFEW CURRENTLY PLANNED FOR LIMA. GUARDIA OFFICIAL HAD NO INFORMATION ON SITUATION IN OTHER CITIES OUTSIDE OF LIMA NOR DOES EMBASSY; WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO CONTACT CUZCO AND TRUJILLO BNC'S FOR THEIR COMMENTS. SHLAUDEMAM

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
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